

# Democratic Club to host candidate forum

BY SUE BUCK  
STAFF WRITER

The Farmington Democratic Club will host a school board candidate forum at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 28.

The forum will be held at Farmington Hills City Hall located on 11 mile at Orchard Lake Road.

All three candidates for Farmington Public School Board — Karen Bolen, John Goshorn and Cheryl Swaim, have agreed to participate, said Gerry Goldberg, club chair.

One, four-year seat is open because School Board President Linda Enberg decided not to seek re-election.

Farmington Hills resident Michael Shipce will moderate the forum. Shipce, an attorney, is a former Farmington school board member. Candidates will be hearing the questions for the first time that evening.

"We don't believe in giving questions to candidates in advance," Goldberg said. Club members will prepare some questions, take questions from the audience and also offer the opportunity for viewers tuned into cable Channel 8 to call in questions. The telephone number will be displayed on the screen during the live broadcast.

The club has more than 100 members, Goldberg said.

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## CRIME

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police that Wilson had been arrested.

On May 20, Wilson appeared at a preliminary exam at 47th District Court before Judge James Brady, who bound the case over to Oakland County Circuit Court.

Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer will be submitting a nomination to the Department's Citation and Award Board, recommending the victim receive a civilian citation. The chief cited the victim's courage to fight, escape and identify the suspect three years after the ordeal. The success of the case was the result of teamwork of the detectives combined with modern technology, Dwyer said.

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## RECREATION NEWS

For more information on the following activities call the Farmington Hills Recreation Division at (248) 473-1800.

### In-Line Hockey League

King of the Hills In-Line Hockey League will begin its eight game/eight week season on June 16. Games will be played on weekday evenings at the Heritage park In-Line Hockey Rink in Farmington Hills.

Divisions range from 7-8 years of age to 17 and up. Individual player fee is \$55. Registration deadline is Friday, May 23.

### Family Mini Camp

Bring the whole family for Family Mini Camp 5-9 p.m. Saturday, June 14. Create a craft, roast hot dogs over the fire, take a hike and eat s'mores around the fire. Cost is \$7 per person, adults and children. Pre-registration is required.

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## PROFESSOR

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Student Heather Pike of White Lake Township was shocked when she learned King was not coming back to lead the theater program.

"I want her there," she said. "She's not only a teacher, but a friend."

Student Jason Paulik of Royal Oak said Thomas is an inspiration to the drama students.

"She's supportive and hands-on," he said. "She puts her heart and soul into the productions."

Other students also spoke passionately about how King inspired them in the academic career.

"She is the kind of teacher you want to have here," Pike said.

Student Michelle Landry has spearheaded the student campaign to retain Thomas.

But board members told the group that unless new information surfaced, there was no plan to investigate the decision further.

Board chairwoman Janice Simmons said, "I think we looked into the situation and I think this is it. The decision has been made."

Board members also did not allow a letter to be read from King's boss warning her she would be terminated if she failed to complete her classes; her contract expires in June.

"We don't want to get into an employer/employee confidentiality," board member Phillip Abraham said.

"You are not the employer or the employee," he told Landry. OCC spokesman George Christon said King's contract was not renewed because the theater department has not grown in student numbers under her leadership.

"And under these difficult economic times we have to make some cuts," he said. "A job posting for a theater department director was posted at the OCC administration building in Bloomfield Hills, and board members said the theater program will continue."

King said under her guidance, enrollment has significantly increased.

She said she was promoted last summer only to have the decision reversed without explanation.

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